

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (canceled) .

1 2. (previously presented) The device as in claim 8 or 9,
2 characterized in that, over its length, the channel features
3 varying cross-sectional dimensions or shapes.

1 3. (currently amended) The device as in claim 2, 8, or 9,
2 characterized in that a matching stub line serving for the
3 tuning of the acoustic transmission properties between the
4 coupling opening and the input or output extends into said
5 channel and is itself bounded by the material of the shell
6 member.

1 4. (previously presented) The device as in one of the
2 claims 2, 8, or 9, characterized in that, over at least a
3 substantial segment of its length, the channel extends
4 essentially parallel to the outer surface of the device.

1 5. (previously presented) The device as in one of the
2 claims 2, 8, or 9, characterized in that the device is a
3 custom-moulded hearing aid.

1 6. (previously presented) The device as in one of claims
2 2, 8, or 9, characterized in that the device is a custom-
3 moulded, in-the-ear hearing aid and that the channel is part
4 of a venting system for the ear drum.

5 7. (previously presented) The device as in one of the
6 claims 2, 8, or 9, further comprising another channel,
7 characterized in that at least certain segments of said

8 channels extend in parallel fashion.

1 8. (currently amended) A hearing device comprising at
2 least one of an acoustical/electrical converter and an
3 electrical/acoustical converter respectively with an
4 acoustical input or output, said input or output respectively
5 being linked to a coupling opening at the outer surface of
6 said device via a channel, at least a part of said outer
7 surface of said device being formed by a ~~one-part~~ unitary
8 shell member of said device defining an inner space distinct
9 from said channel, said channel being provided ~~within~~ and
10 along said part of said shell member and being formed ~~within~~
11 the material of said shell member.

1 9. (currently amended) A hearing device comprising:
2 a one-part shell member forming at least a portion of an
3 outer surface of said device, said shell member
4 defining an interior space of said device, said
5 shell member forming a channel out of the material
6 of said shell member, said channel being formed
7 within and along said shell member and being
8 distinct from said interior space; and
9 at least one of an acoustical/electrical converter and an
10 electrical/acoustical converter including an
11 acoustical input or output, respectively, wherein
12 said input or output is acoustically linked to a coupling
13 opening via said channel.

1 10. (currently amended) A hearing device comprising:
2 a one-part shell member forming at least a portion of an
3 outer surface of said device, said shell member
4 defining an interior space of said device, said
5 shell member forming a channel out of the material
6 of said shell member, said channel being formed

7 ~~with~~in and along said shell member and being
8 distinct of said interior space, and, over at least
9 a substantial segment of its length, said channel
10 running essentially parallel to said outer surface;
11 and
12 at least one of an acoustical/electrical converter and an
13 electrical/acoustical converter including an
14 acoustical input or output, respectively, wherein
15 said input or output is acoustically linked to a coupling
16 opening via said channel, and further wherein
17 said channel is tuned to have specific acoustical
18 characteristics.